

# Worker Health and Safety Committee Contracting and Management Committee of the Environmental Management Advisory Board

Examination of the Effectiveness of EM's Safety Management System in the Field



# **Objectives**

- Field site visits
  - Savannah River Site January 12-13
  - Hanford Site March 8-9
- Worker Health and Safety Committee
  - understand and learn, at the site level, how Integrated
     Safety Management implementation is proceeding
- Contracting and Management Committee
  - explore implementation of ISM through contracts
  - gather information on project management



## WH&S Committee Findings

- Putting the sites into perspective
  - SRS and Hanford are similar in many regards and are among the largest in the complex that encompass a diverse range of work. There are also several aspects between these sites that are unique as well.
- Implementation of ISM
  - SRS has fully implemented ISM and is now moving into the maintenance phase.
  - Hanford is on a path to meet implementation by September 2000.



# WH&S Committee Findings

- Worker Participation
  - Workers evidenced a strong commitment to S&H.
     However, there is a quiet concern that this may be another short term S&H program rather than an institutionalized long term activity
- Sharing lessons learned and approaches
  - There are a number of different approaches to implementing ISM that are unique to each site as well as a number of commonalties.



# WH&S Committee Findings

- EM-5's role and identity
  - At this point, the new EM-5 is not widely recognized in the field. The office is working on developing a strong communication between HQ and the sites.
- Dramatic Shift in interest from the top
  - The focus from A/S Huntoon and management is a change from the past. This comes at an important time as ISM implementation moves into maintenance.
     The importance of S&H from the top down is a critical dimension in developing a "safety culture."



#### Lead by example

 Assistant Secretary Huntoon's message that safety and health is her number one priority is being clearly heard throughout the headquarters and field.



- Institutionalize safety and health training with initial emphasis on the project management initiative
  - The process has begun, but it is still too early to assess the effectiveness of the safety and health dimension.



- Empower an office with the authority and resources to institutionalize safety and health values
  - The Safety, Health and Security Office has been established and is developing a number of initiatives to facilitate a more active role in safety and health matters. The Office Director, Randy Scott, has also initiated an active relationship with the WH&S Committee.



- Involve safety and health as integral parts of the contracting process.
  - This is occurring at the EM field sites through:
    - Increasing inclusion of the DEAR clause in contracts
    - Increased attention to the ISM flow-down to subcontractors
    - Additional training efforts
    - Improved coordination between contracting offices and the contractor on S&H expectations
    - Attention to "Feedback and Improvement," "Lessons Learned," and "Leading Indicators"



- Establish objective safety and health performance measures for all EM managers.
  - It is understood that efforts on this matter have begun. The committee does not yet have evidence as to results. However, progress in the preceding four resolutions indicates a movement in the right direction.



## **Conclusions**

- EM sites have made substantial and excellent progress in implementation of ISM
- A more constructive relationship between management and workers is being developed
- Other benefits include redefining of roles and responsibilities of the government and contractors, and improved management of subcontractors.



## Conclusions (cont.)

- EM has made significant progress in putting an effective safety and health management system in-place. Achieving the full benefits that ISM permits will, however, take continued attention and dedication.
- Assistant Secretary Huntoon has and continues to provide the example of top management commitment to workplace safety and health. Field managers, and others, are following her example.